Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 /019 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, OVIP, KS

SUBJECT: NINTH UNITED STATES-KOREA COMMERCE MINISTERS MEETING

REF: SEOUL 5584, SEOUL 5925

1. MR. NOH'S DISCUSSIONS AT THE COMMERCE DEPARTMENT CONCERNING TIMING OF THE NEXT MINISTERIAL WERE VERY PRELIMINARY IN NATURE. SUBSEQUENT TO HIS DISCUSSION WITH THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL MARKETING, THE SUBJECT WAS RAISED VERY BRIEFLY DURING MINISTER NAM'S MEETING WITH UNDER SECRETARY HARMAN. (A MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION FROM THAT MEETING WILL BE POUCHED TO SEOUL.)
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PAGE 02 STATE 175786

A SEPTEMBER DATE WAS MENTIONED INFORMALLY AS WAS THE POSSIBILITY OF A MINISTERIAL AS LATE AS THE FIRST FEW MONTHS OF NEXT YEAR. THE EMPHASIS OF THE DISCUSSION WAS UPON KEEPING THE SCHEDULING WITHIN THE RANGE OF TIMING AS SUGGESTED BY PAST PRACTICE. MINISTER NAM WAS ADVISED THAT THE ISSUE WOULD BE PRESENTED TO SECRETARY KREPS AND THAT COMMERCE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS WOULD ACT UPON HER RECOMMENDATION

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(F.Y.I. BECAUSE OF THE SECRETARY'S BUSY SCHEDULE AND THE PRESS OF BUSINESS FOR THE KOREANS IN THEIR NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, AN EARLY DATE MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE.)

2. PLEASE ASSURE MR. NOH THAT ACTIVE CONSIDERATION IS BEING GIVEN TO THE TIMING OF THE NINTH MINISTERIAL. WE WILL ADVISE YOU ABOUT PROPOSED TIMING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. CHRISTOPHER

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